GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1215
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2001
ESI COVERAGE FOR AGRICULTURAL WORKERS
AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to implement pension scheme for agricultural workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some ESIC hospitals are under utilised due to lack of ESIC memberships; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL)

(a) to (d): A statement is annexed.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1215 FOR ANSWER ON 30.7.2001 REGARDING ESI COVERAGE FOR AGRICULTURAL WORKERS RAISED BY SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH.

(a) & (b): The Government has launched `Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana - 2001` for agricultural workers from Ist July, 2001. Under the supervision of the Ministry of Labour, the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) will implement the Scheme. The following provisions of social security have been made under the Scheme:

(a) Life-cum-accident insurance,
(b) Money back, and
(c) Pension and Superannuation benefits.

Agricultural workers in the age group of 18 years to 50 year are eligible for coverage under the Scheme. The worker will contribute Rs. 1/- per day, or Rs. 365/- per year, and the Government will pay Rs. 2/- per day, or Rs. 730/- per year, per beneficiary from the Social Security Fund. Initially the Scheme will be implemented in 50 Districts.

(c) & (d) Yes, Sir. In order to increase the membership of the ESI Scheme, a phased programme for implementation ofthe scheme in new areas is prepared every year in consultation with the State Governments so that the infrastucture created may be put to full use. An intensive survey has been undertaken in azlready implemented areas to identify factories and establishments which are coverable under the scheme, but not yet covered. Insfrastructure is being modernized/improved under Action Plans so that the insured persons use the existing hospitals.